

# The THOREAU SOCIETY

## BULLETIN

The Thoreau Society, Inc., is an informal gathering of students and followers of Henry D. Thoreau. T.L. Bailey, Cleveland, O., pres.; Mrs. Herbert Hosmer, Concord, Mass., vice-pres. Walter Harding, State University College, Geneseo, N.Y., sec. treas. Annual membership, two dollars; life, twenty-five.

BULLETIN EIGHTY-ONE

FALL, 1962

### THE WESTERN THOREAU CENTENARY

by J. Golden Taylor

Some two hundred people representing several of the Western states attended one or more of the six sessions of the Western Thoreau Centenary held in Logan, Utah, June 21, 22, 23, 1962. In sponsoring this centenary commemoration of Thoreau's death, Utah State University was acting as host to a Western regional meeting of the Thoreau Society. Two officers of the Society (who were also among its founders in 1941) were present and participated in a very full week-end of activities including lectures and discussions, a tea for Mrs. Hosmer and Mrs. Harding, a dinner for speakers and guests, natural history tours, and informal gatherings.

Mrs. Herbert B. Hosmer, vice-president of the Society, graciously accepted the University's special invitation to attend and address the meetings. The only Concordian present, she lent a peculiarly authentic tone to the affair. In her two lectures dealing with Thoreau and the Concord he knew and with the court fight to save Walden Pond, Mrs. Hosmer delighted as well as informed a very appreciative audience.

The Western Thoreau Centenary was oriented around Dr. Walter Harding, secretary-treasurer and president-elect of the Society, who was engaged by the University to give the three major one-hour addresses: "The Influence of 'Civil Disobedience,'" "Five Ways of Looking at WALDEN," and "Thoreau's Last Days and Death." All three papers were enthusiastically received by specialists and by the general public alike who recognized Dr. Harding's fine scholarship and responded to the effective simplicity of his presentation. Many in the audience found his account of Thoreau's death one of the most moving experiences of their lives. In a one-hour business meeting Dr. Harding and Mrs. Hosmer discussed informally the organization of the Thoreau Society and its aims and major activities and accepted memberships from about twenty interested persons.

In addition to hearing officers of the Thoreau Society, the plans were to have papers presented by Western scholars interested in Thoreau. Dr. Olaus J. Murie, the noted naturalist of Moose, Wyoming, and Director of the Wilderness Society, planned a talk on "Thoreau and the Preservation of Nature," but he was prevented by serious illness from

presenting or even finishing it. Four other talks were given. Dr. Edward J. Rose of the University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada, presented a paper, "A World with Full and Fair Proportions": The Aesthetics and the Politics of Vision." Dr. Hugh B. Fox, Jr. of Loyola University, Los Angeles, California, spoke on "Thoreau's 'Walking' as a Program for the Development of American Letters." Mr. William Drake of the University of Arizona, Tucson, was unable to attend because of serious illness in his family, but his paper, "Spiritual Ideals and Scientific Fact: Thoreau's Search for Reality," was read by Mrs. Rosamond Sleight. Dr. J. Golden Taylor, Director of the Western Thoreau Centenary, presented a paper, "Thoreau and the Integrity of the Individual;" and he is now editing it and four of the other papers as a monograph for fall publication by the University to be entitled, THE WESTERN THOREAU CENTENARY: SELECTED PAPERS.

Of the two natural history tours held on Saturday the 7:00 a.m. till noon tour of The Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge, one of the outstanding waterfowl areas of North America, was the most rewarding. The Thoreau Society group was guided through part of its 64,900 acres of marshlands by Dr. Malcolm E. McDonald, wildlife biologist at the Bear River Research Station.

These marshes are teeming with life even in summer, the more quiet season between migrations. Of the 200 species of birds recorded on the refuge, about 60 are known to nest. It is not uncommon for refuge personnel to flush a dozen Canada geese from nests in one day while making nesting studies. Hundreds of broods of ducks and geese can be seen feeding on the open water units during June and July. The refuge produces approximately 45,000 ducks and 2,500 geese annually. The Canada is the only goose that nests in this vicinity. Principal nesting ducks, in order of abundance, are the gadwall, cinnamon teal, mallard, pintail, and redhead. Egrets, herons, ibises, and shorebirds nest in great profusion in the lower marshes and on the alkali flats, islands, and dikes. . . .

While driving, the visitor might watch for some of the species more or less pe-



culiar to the West and to this area: the western grebe, yellow-headed blackbird, American avocet, black-necked stilt, long-billed curlew, Wilson's phalarope, white-faced ibis, snowy egret, Franklin's gull, ruddy duck, cinnamon teal, and gadwall.... Duck populations in early fall occasionally exceed a million birds. Dr. Harding, who is a bird watcher extraordinary, was in his element and must have checked off one hundred new species in his FIELD GUIDE TO WESTERN BIRDS as he made the rounds of the refuge.

The Thoreauvians apparently had little energy left for the afternoon tour of Logan Canyon. There was no interest in crossing a level wooded field a quarter of a mile to observe beavers at work--much less in climbing a mile and a half straight up a mountain to see the giant 3500-year-old Jardine Juniper tree. Even the favorite water ouzel of the Canyon clung to its nest on the sheer cliff above the rushing rapids of Logan River and would not perform--neither dip nor dive. Thus the group took its cue from nature (while acceding to human nature) and sought rest and food on the shores of Bear Lake.

#### THE JAPANESE THOREAU CENTENARY

by M. Higashiyama

On May 19, 1962 we held the Thoreau centennial at Hosei University in Tokyo. Mr. Kasegawa spoke on WALDEN, Mr. Yamazaki on CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE, and I on the JOURNAL. It was a small celebration and about sixty people were in the room. Mr. Saito was chairman and after the speeches we received questions from the audience. In the evening the members of the American Literature Association had a dinner party.

#### ADDITIONS TO THE THOREAU BIBLIOGRAPHY...WH

- BOK NYTT [Norway]. "Amerikatur og Thorau's Samlede." Nr. 2, 1962. Ole Kristian Grimnes won a tour of the U.S. from Norway for an essay on Thoreau.
- Burroughs, John. "Henry D. Thoreau." [Hartford, Conn.: Emerson Society, 1962] Reprinted from the CENTURY MAGAZINE for July 1882.
- Butler, Helen J. "Thoreau's Walden Still Proves Inspiration." BAY STATE POST. Aug. 11, 1962.
- CAPE CODDER. "Where Do We Stand to Put All America Behind Us?" Aug. 16, 1962. Cartoon about Thoreau pilgrims.
- CHICAGO TRIBUNE. "How Great a Son." May 6, 1962. Centenary editorial.
- CONCORD JOURNAL. "Thoreau Society Meeting Saturday." July 12, 1962. Announcement of annual meeting.
- Curtis, John L. "The Egghead Corner." DINERS' CLUB MAGAZINE, July, 1962, p. 12. Centennial tribute to Thoreau.
- Davies, John. "Henry Stephens Salt." Trans. into Spanish by V. Munoz. CENT, CXXXVIII (June, 1962), Reprinted from THOREAU SOCIETY BULLETIN 29.
- Derleth, August. CONCORD REBEL: A LIFE OF HENRY DAVID THOREAU. Philadelphia: Chilton, 1962, 213pp. \$3.50. Although there have been numerous attempts, up until now there has not been a satisfactory life of Thoreau written for young people. August Derleth, who is well-known for his "Sac Prairie" novels about life in Wisconsin, has broken through the barrier and written a biography that will not only appeal to young people, but adults as well. It is not sugary. It does not gloss over or play down Thoreau's rebellious nature. For the first time it presents the facts of his life in a clear chronological order. And, most important, it presents Thoreau with a clear understanding of just what his aims were and just what he stood for. An eminently satisfactory book.
- Dias, Earl J. "New Bedford Man Was Warm Friend of Thoreau." NEW BEDFORD STANDARD TIMES. May 6, 1962. On T's friendship with Daniel Ricketson.
- Douglass, James. "Henry David Thoreau." CATHOLIC WORKER, XXVIII (May, 1962), 3. Centennial tribute.
- Emerson, Ellen. "Thoreau, One Hundred Years Later: Individualism." CONCORD JOURNAL. June 21, 1962. Centennial tribute given at Concord High School graduation by Emerson's great-granddaughter.
- Engle, Paul. "Henry David Thoreau." in NEW ENGLANDERS. Privately printed, Prairie Press, 1940. A sonnet.
- Fenn, Mary R. "A Walk with Thoreau." HORTICULTURE. July, 1962. p. 390. T. and wild flowers.
- Flaxman, Seymour. "Thoreau and Van Eeden" DWR FRIEDE [35], pp. 341-352.
- FRIHUG. "Henry David Thoreau, 1862-1962, Til Minne,--Med Vyrndnad Og Takksemd." V (Mai, 1962), 1-12. The entire issue of this liberal Norwegian magazine is devoted to a centennial tribute.
- Gehr, Harmon M. "A Free Man Speaks to Our Time: On the 100th Anniversary of the Death of Henry David Thoreau." Pasadena Calif.: Throop Memorial Universalist Church, [1962], [5pp., mimeo]. Text of a centennial sermon.
- G[rondahl], I.C. "Henry David Thoreau." SANDEFJORDS BLAD [Lodag, Norway]. May 5, 1962. Centennial tribute.
- The Same. VALDRES [Norway]. May 5, 1962.
- Gruenert, Charles F. "Thoreau's Humor in Theory and Practice." Unpublished doctoral dissertation. Univ. of Chicago, 1957.
- Hoagland, Clayton. "Thoreau as Educator." FLORIDA ADULT EDUCATOR, XII (April-June, 1962), 13-16. Reprinted from PLEASURES IN LEARNING, May, 1962.
- Hoblitzelle, Harrison. "The War Against War in the Nineteenth Century: A Study of the Western Backgrounds of Gandhian Thought." Unpublished doctoral dissertation. Columbia University, 1959.
- Hoffman, Daniel G. FORM AND FABLE IN AMERICAN FICTION. New York: Oxford, 1961.



- pp. 37, 69, 107-8, 212-3, 305.
- Hovaness, Alan Scott. *THE STARS*. N.p., 197?, 27pp. Words adapted from *WALDEN* for soprano, chorus, English horn, celesta, harp, and strings. A copy is on deposit in the Library of Congress.
- Ives, Charles. *SECOND PIANO SONATA: CONCORD. MASS., 1840-1860*. New York: Composers Recordings Inc., 1962. (CRI-150) A new recording, with George Pappastavrou at the piano, of Ives' major work. The fourth movement is entitled "Thoreau" and Ives himself has said of it, "If there shall be a program let it follow his [Thoreau's] thought on an autumn day of Indian summer at Walden." This is the first time the sonata has been recorded since the advent of long-playing records and the increase of fidelity of reproduction is notable.
- Jones, Howard Mumford. "Thoreau and Human Nature." *ATLANTIC MONTHLY*, CCX (Sept. 1962), 56-61. Address delivered at the May centenary in New York City.
- Junkins, Donald. "Walden in July" *CONCORD JOURNAL*. July 19, 1962. A poem, reprinted from the *NEW YORKER*.
- Kelley, William Melvin. *A DIFFERENT DRUMMER*. New York: Doubleday, 1962, 223pp. An exciting new novel about race relations in the South with its title taken from *WALDEN*.
- Lawrence, Wes. "Breakfast Commentator: Bainbury's Summer Diary." *CLEVELAND PLAIN DEALER*. June 27, 1962. Account of a visit to Walden.
- Lombardo, Agostino. *LA RICERCA DEL VERO: SAGGI SULLA TRADIZIONE LETTERARIA AMERICANA*. Roma: Ed. di storia e letteratura, 1961 [?] Includes a chapter [?] on Thoreau.
- McGehee, Judson D. "The Nature Essay as a Literary Genre: An Intrinsic Study of the Works of Six English and American Nature Writers." Unpublished doctoral dissertation. University of Michigan, 1958. Includes Thoreau.
- Menger, W.H. "Thoreau's *WALDEN MS.*," *TRACE*, XLIV (Autumn, 1961), 209-215.
- Miller, Henry. "Henry David Thoreau" in *STAND STILL LIKE A HUMMINGBIRD*. New York: New Directions, 1962, \$4. pp. 111-118. Now Miller has collected the brilliant essay he wrote on Thoreau for a privately printed edition of three of Thoreau's political essays some sixteen years ago. It is still one of the most potent discussions of the present-day efficacy of Thoreau's political ideas and it is good to see that it will now have a larger audience. Thoreauvians will also want to read many of the other essays collected in this stimulating volume. Thoreau is quoted directly frequently and there is hardly a page that does not display the close similarity in philosophy of Miller and Thoreau.
- Moreau, Louis. *Portrait of Thoreau*. Berkeley Heights, N.J.: Oriole Press, 1962. Special printing of a woodcut portrait of Thoreau.
- Morison, Samuel F. "Gee, Wotta Style." *BOSTON GLOBE*. June 3, 1962. Acceptance speech upon receipt of the Gold Medal of the National Institute of Arts and letters. Devoted to Thoreau's style.
- Morton, Kent. "Thoreau, One Hundred Years Later: Civil Disobedience." *CONCORD JOURNAL*. June 21, 1962. Another Concord High School graduation speech.
- Moses, George L. "Thoreau Had Salty View of Cape Cod." *NEW BEDFORD STANDARD TIMES*. May 6, 1962. Essay on T's visits to Cape Cod.
- Munoz, Vladimir. "A los Cien Anos de la Muerte de Thoreau (1862-1962)." *VOLUNTAD* [Montevideo, Uruguay], June, 1962. Centennial essay.
- "Ante el Centenario de la Muerte de Thoreau." *EL PLATA* [Montevideo] June 9, 1962. Centennial essay.
- Nehru, B.K. "Henry David Thoreau--A Tribute." *INDIA NEWS*, I (May 11, 1962), 8. The Hall of Fame address.
- The Same. *NEW OUTLOOK*, XV (1962), 48-54.
- Newsom, William. "Thoreau, One Hundred Years Later: Simplicity." *CONCORD JOURNAL*. June 21, 1962. Another Concord High School graduation address.
- NORDISK TIDENDE. "Thoreau--oppdaget i Norge." [Brooklyn, N.Y.]. Aug. 9, 1962. On Grimmes' winning trip to U.S. from Norway for his essay on Thoreau.
- O'Donnell, Charles R. "The Mind of the Artist: Cooper, Thoreau, Hawthorne, Melville." Unpublished doctoral dissertation. Syracuse University, 1957.
- Paul, Sherman, ed. *THOREAU: A COLLECTION OF CRITICAL ESSAYS*. Englewood Cliffs, N.J.: Prentice-Hall, 1962, 188pp. \$3.95, cloth; \$1.95, paper. A collection of fourteen 20th-century essays and two poems on Thoreau by William Rutler Yeats, Lewis Mumford, Max Lerner, Stanley Edgar Hyman, Leo Stoller, F.O. Matthiessen, Heinz Eulau, Laurence Stapleton, and others. The volume is probably most important for getting William Drake's analyses of *WALDEN* and *A WEEK* into print and Edwin S. Fussell's brilliant analysis of the book about the American Indians that Thoreau never got around to writing. The remaining essays make a fairly good survey of criticism of Thoreau except that there is no negative criticism and that too many of them repeat each other particularly on the symbolism of rebirth in *WALDEN*--an important idea, granted, but one that hardly needs being said in one volume by four different authors. It is unfortunate too that the book suffers from careless proof-reading.
- Peterson, George L. "When H.D. Thoreau Visited Minnesota." *MINNEAPOLIS STAR*. Aug. 20, 1962.
- Philbin, Philip J. "Thoreau." *CONGRESSIONAL RECORD*. May 23, 1962. pp. A3870-A3871. Centennial tribute.
- Porter, Lawrence C. "Transcendentalism: A Self-Portrait." *NEW ENGLAND QUARTERLY*, XXXV (March, 1962), 27-47. Much on Thoreau's Transcendentalism.
- Rady, G.R. "Thoreau." *THE BLUE BELL* [Montreal, Que.], XLI (April, 1962),



- 26-28. A centennial tribute.
- Rohman, David G. "An Annotated Edition of Henry David Thoreau's WALDEN." Unpublished doctoral dissertation. Syracuse University. 1960.
- The Same. DISSERTATION ABSTRACTS, XXII (1961?), 249.
- Ross, Ivan T. OLD STUDENTS NEVER DIE. Garden City: Doubleday, 1962, 191pp. Murder mystery in which one of the characters frequently quotes from Thoreau.
- Salomon, Louis B. "The Straight-Cut Ditch: Thoreau on Education." AMERICAN QUARTERLY, XIV (Spring, 1962), 19-36.
- Scott, Louise. "And a Small Cabin Built There." EDUCATIONAL FORUM, XXVI (Jan. 1962), 232. Sonnet on Thoreau.
- Scott, Winfield Townley. "Walden Pond in the Nuclear Age." NEW YORK TIMES MAGAZINE. May 6, 1962. pp. 34, 84ff. A centennial tribute.
- Rohman, David G. "Second Growth in WALDEN" PAPERS OF THE MICH. ACAD. OF SCI., ARTS, & LETTERS, XLVII (1962), 565-570.
- Shanley, J. Lyndon. "Placeres de Walden." CENIT, XII (Jan. 1962), 3575-3579. Thoreau Society Booklet 15, trans. into Spanish by Vladimir Munoz.
- Shear, Walter Lewis. "Thoreau's Imagery and Symbolism." DISSERTATION ABSTRACTS, XXII (1961?), 860-861.
- Talbot, Charles Remington. ROMULUS AND REMUS: A DOG STORY. Boston: Lothrop, 1888, 217pp. A children's novel with much about Thoreau in it.
- Thompson, Wade G. THE AESTHETIC THEORY OF HENRY DAVID THOREAU. Unpublished doctoral dissertation. Columbia University, 1959.
- Mary Thoreau. "The Thoreau Centenary." JERSEY WEEKLY POST. May 12, 1962. A centennial tribute to Thoreau in an Isle of Jersey newspaper by a distant relative of Thoreau.
- Thoreau, Henry David. EXCURSIONS. With an introduction by Leo Marx. New York: Corinth Books, 1962. 319pp. \$1.75. The only inexpensive paperback reprint of Thoreau's collected travel essays.
- SIC VITA! [New York]: Silverado Press, 1962. The first printing of the newly discovered Thoreau poem. 30 copies were made on Whatman hand-made paper made in 1824; 25 copies, on hand-made Japan vellum; and 325 copies on Tuscany hand-made paper.
- "Summer Song." THIS WEEK MAGAZINE. June 17, 1962. p. 2. A shortened version of "Sic Vita" above.
- WALDEN AND ON THE DUTY OF CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE. With an introduction by Charles R. Anderson. New York: Collier Books, 1962. 256pp. Paperbound. 65¢. Text: small print, tiny margins, not particularly accurate. Introduction: "WALDEN is an experience recreated in words for the purpose of getting rid of the World altogether and discovering the Self. Its real theme is the search for perfection."
- A WEEK ON THE CONCORD AND MERRIMACK RIVERS. (Signet Edition). REVIEW. John Gardner. NATIONAL FISHERMAN. June, 1962.
- A YANKEE IN CANADA. (Harvest House edition.) Review. CANADIAN LITERATURE,

XII (Spring, 1962), 79-80.

- UN YANKEE AU CANADA. Trans. into French by Adrien Therio. Montreal: Les Editions de l'Homme, 1962. 143pp. \$1.00.
- WASHINGTON POST. "Immortal Yankee." May 11, 1962. Editorial on centennial.
- Wershba, Joseph. "Of Fame and a Woman." NEW YORK POST. May 6, 1962. Interview with Malvina Hoffman about her Hall of Fame bust of Thoreau.
- White, William. "An Unpublished Thoreau Poem." AMERICAN LITERATURE, XXXIV (March, 1962), 119-121. The new "Sic Vita."
- Williams, Cecil B. "Thoreau of Walden." COLLEGE ENGLISH, XXIII (Jan. 1962), 401. A sonnet.
- WORCESTER EVENING GAZETTE. "Henry David Thoreau: 1817-1862" May 11, 1962. A centennial editorial.
- Zalamea, Luis. "Thoreau Today." AMERICAS, XIV (March, 1962), 27-32. A centennial essay. Published in both English and Spanish.
- Zehner, J. Alex. "About Henry David Thoreau." CARNEGIE MAGAZINE, XXXVI (May, 1962), 149-152. A centennial tribute.

I am indebted to the following for information used in this bulletin: H. Adel, T. Bailey, D. Bernstein, M. Campbell, K. Cameron, A. Derleth, L. Digby, T. Davis, E. Erickson, O. Floyd, M. Gertler, I. Grondahl, C. Hoagland, L. Harvey, G. Hosmer, J. Ishill, J. Moldenhauer, M. Meltzer, V. Munoz, P. Oehser, W. Peterson, L. Poste, H. Schon, R. Robbins, R. Schaedle, S. Sherwin, E. Seim, J. Tobin, E. Wilentz, P. Williams, P. Weideman, and H. Zahniser. Please keep the secretary informed of items he has missed and new items as they appear.

#### TREASURER'S REPORT

On hand 7/11/61		\$1809
Income		
Dues	\$616	
Back publications	245	
Gifts	24	
Life memberships	200	
Centenary	226	
	<u>1336</u>	3145
Expenses		
Postage & mail	381	
Meeting & travel	196	
Printing	288	
Microfilm	138	
Centenary	300	
Misc.	91	
	<u>1394</u>	
On hand 6/8/62		1751

Note: Further income received from the centenary fund arrived after the close of the fiscal year, making a profit of \$466 rather than the above apparent loss of \$74. It will be included in next year's treasurer's report.

The cost of printing Bulletins 80 and 81 were covered by the life memberships of Mrs. Sarah Rothman, Bronx, N.Y., and Miss Mary Ellen Chase, Northampton, Mass.